

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A saw blade provided with numerous cutting teeth for cutting a workpiece at appropriate pitches, the saw blade comprising:

left and right set teeth, which are set in a lateral direction, as viewed in a cutting direction of the cutting teeth;

wherein each of the left and right set teeth is a dovetail shaped set tooth having a tooth tip which is gradually enlarged in the lateral direction in addition to being set, each of the left teeth having opposing sides inclined in generally the same direction a left side surface at the dovetail shaped portion and each of the right teeth having opposing sides inclined in generally the same direction a right side surface at the dovetail shaped portion, so that each inclination angle of the left side surface and the right side surface is increased as a result of both the dovetail shape and set of the tooth tip; and

a straight tooth, which is not set in the lateral direction, as viewed in the cutting direction of the cutting teeth,

wherein the straight tooth including a dovetail shaped straight tooth having a tooth tip which is gradually enlarged in the lateral direction, and

wherein an upper surface of each tooth, including the tooth tip, defines a planar inclined surface.

3. (Original) A saw blade according to claim 2, wherein a height of each of the left and right set teeth is smaller than or substantially equal to that of the straight tooth.

4. (Original) A saw blade according to claim 2, wherein an inclination is formed at an inside corner on a tooth tip side of each of the left and right set teeth.

5. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 2, wherein the cutting teeth are configured by joining a dovetail shaped chip to the tip end of the tooth in a blade base; and

wherein the thickness of the chip at the joint portion is made to be smaller than that of the tip end of the tooth.

6. (Currently Amended) A saw blade provided with numerous cutting teeth for cutting a workpiece at appropriate pitches, the saw blade comprising:

left and right set teeth, which are set in a lateral direction, as viewed in a cutting direction of the cutting teeth;

wherein each of the left and right set teeth is a dovetail shaped set tooth having a tooth tip which is gradually enlarged in the lateral direction in addition to being set, each of the left teeth having opposing sides inclined in generally the same direction a left side surface at the dovetail shaped portion and each of the right teeth having opposing sides

inclined in generally the same direction a right side surface at the dovetail shaped portion, so that each inclination angle of the left side surface and the right side surface is increased as a result of both the dovetail shape and set of the tooth tip; and

a straight tooth, which is not set in the lateral direction, as viewed in the cutting direction of the cutting teeth,

wherein the straight tooth including a bevel-dovetail shaped straight tooth having inclinations at both of left and right ends of a tooth tip which is gradually enlarged in the lateral direction, and

wherein an upper surface of each tooth, including the tooth tip, defines a planar inclined surface.

7. (Original) A saw blade according to claim 6, wherein a height of each of the left and right set teeth is smaller than or substantially equal to that of the straight tooth.

8. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 6, wherein the inclination is formed at an inside corner on a tooth tip side of each of the left and right set teeth.

9. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 6, wherein the cutting teeth are configured by joining a dovetail shaped chip to the tip end of the tooth in a blade base; and

wherein the thickness of the chip at the joint portion is made to be smaller than that of the tip end of the tooth.

10. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 1, further comprising:

a straight tooth, which is not set in the lateral direction, as viewed in the cutting direction of the cutting teeth;

wherein in the above-described configuration, the straight tooth includes: a dovetail shaped straight tooth having a tooth tip which is gradually enlarged in the lateral direction; and a bevel-dovetail shaped straight tooth having inclinations at both of left and right ends of a tooth tip which is gradually enlarged in the lateral direction; and

wherein a height of the dovetail shaped straight tooth is smaller than or substantially equal to that of the bevel-dovetail shaped straight tooth.

11. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 10, wherein a height of each of the left and right set teeth is smaller than or substantially equal to that of the straight tooth.

12. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 10, wherein the inclination is formed at an inside corner on a tooth tip side of each of the left and right set teeth.

13. (Withdrawn) A saw blade according to claim 10, wherein the cutting teeth are configured by joining a dovetail shaped chip to the tip end of the tooth in a blade base; and

wherein the thickness of the chip at the joint portion is made to be smaller than that of the tip end of the tooth.